

27 investors file formal complaints

A total of \$1,006,524 in claims from Rewald investors had been filed with bankruptcy court as of yesterday afternoon, with the names of a retired police executive and a successful Big Island developer on the list.

Former Assistant Police Chief Thomas Soper, who retired from the force in 1976, filed a claim for some \$70,882 that he said he and his wife invested with Rewald.

Also on file is a \$35,727 claim from Big Island developer Richard M. Jitchaku, a longtime member of the Democratic Party power structure in Hawaii.

Only 27 formal claims have been filed to date, according to court files. Bankruptcy trustee Thomas Hayes estimates there are some 400 individual investors in the firm.

The largest single claim filed so far is for \$205,262, although Hayes has said some

"seven-figure" investments were made in the firm.

In another development yesterday, it was learned that Ronald Rewald's former chauffeur, Franklin Kipili, was not out of work long. He has landed a job as a state deputy sheriff with district court.

Rewald himself used to be an honorary deputy sheriff.

And Lt. Gen. Arnold Braswell, the Air Force's Pacific commander in chief, yesterday confirmed that he invested more than \$100,000 with Rewald and was offered a job upon retirement as a consultant with the firm.

Braswell commands U.S. Air Force units in Hawaii, Japan, Korea and the Philippines.

A spokesman said Braswell was preparing to file a claim for the recovery of his money. Until then, he said, Braswell would

not specify the amount of the investment, which he held to be "a personal matter."

"One of a number of options Gen. Braswell has been considering was an offer to serve as a consultant with the firm after his retirement," said his spokesman, Col. Peter Sloan.

Braswell originally was to retire Aug. 1, and in late June told acquaintances he would stay in Hawaii. On July 29, the Air Force announced his retirement would be postponed until Oct. 1, presumably to work out details for a four-star successor.

It was on July 29 that Channel 2 reported that authorities were investigating Rewald's business practices. That night Rewald cut his wrists.

Braswell will leave his command on Sept. 19, and Sloan said he has made "no final decision regarding this or any other post-retirement employment opportunities."